

than plants in the center of the mat. Neither Lanz or Solomon, either singly or in combination with one another disclose the use of a capillary mat the wicks water uniformly to the plants. Thus claims 5, 11 and 17 are patentable in view of the combination of Lanz and Solomon.

Claims 6, 12, and 16 were rejected as unpatentable over Lanz in view of Filippi. Filippi fails to disclose the use of a capillary mat that wicks the water uniformly to the plants. Thus claims 7 and 13 are patentable as well.

Claims 6, 12, and 16 were rejected as unpatentable over Lanz in view of Marrison. Marrison fails to disclose the use of a capillary mat that wicks the water uniformly to the plants. Thus claims 7 and 13 are patentable as well.

The Applicant respectfully requests that claims 1, 3 – 14 and 16 - 17 be allowed in view of the above remarks. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if further discussions would advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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